

Resolution #1
On Same-Sex Marriage

WHEREAS, God's creation of the institution of marriage was one man and one woman (Genesis 1:27); and

WHEREAS, homosexual behavior is denounced in scripture as unchristian and sinful (First Corinthians 6: 9-10); and

WHEREAS, the homosexual lifestyle is one that can be changed in Christ (First Corinthians 6:11); and

WHEREAS, believers are to be salt and light to society (Matthew 5:13-14);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Amarillo, Texas, October 24-25, 2005, commit to pray for and support local and national efforts to define marriage biblically,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we encourage support for the Defense of Marriage Act, and for proposition two to the Constitution of Texas which says that marriage in this state consists only of the union of one man and one woman and prohibits this state or a political subdivision of this state from creating or recognizing any legal status identical or similar to marriage.

Resolution #2
On the Sanctity of Human Life

WHEREAS, the Bible teaches that all people were created in the image of God; and

WHEREAS, our Creator specifically designed each person for a special purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Declaration of Independence affirms the “inalienable” right to life;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Amarillo, Texas, October 24-25, 2005, are against abortion after conception has taken place; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that every embryo without exception deserves the opportunity to be born; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we strongly oppose embryo-destructive stem cell research; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge all families that seek pregnancy through in vitro fertilization to consider the ethical and spiritual implications of storing their embryos indefinitely in a medical facility, or authorizing their destruction;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we encourage families to have fertilized only as many embryos as they are willing to rear, or to give priority consideration to adoption or implantation of their embryos;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, we affirm that every person once conceived, even if in a test tube, and regardless of circumstances or the ability to defend themselves, deserves the opportunity to fulfill the divine plan of their Creator.

Resolution #3 On Intelligent Design

WHEREAS, naturalistic theories of the origin of man are inconsistent with science and the Word of God; and

WHEREAS, the Bible clearly states that everything was created by him and for him (Colossians 1:16); and

WHEREAS, naturalistic teachings of the origin of man have led to a critically low view of the value of human life in our culture; and

WHEREAS, naturalistic teachings of the origin of man have been presented in our public school classrooms as an undisputable fact;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Amarillo, Texas, October 24-25, 2005, affirm that God alone is the infinite creator of the universe and that the creation account in Genesis is an accurate, historical record of the origin of man.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that we affirm President Bush for stating that he thinks Intelligent Design should be taught in public schools.

Resolution #4 On the Family Covenant

WHEREAS, the Bible commands marital fidelity, and that before and after marriage sexual purity shall be maintained (Exodus 20:14 & Hebrews 13:4); and

WHEREAS, marriage is the foundation of the family and therefore given great importance in scripture (Genesis 2:24 & 1 Corinthians 7:10-11); and

WHEREAS, the homosexual agenda seems to be continually advancing within the culture despite the clear commands of scripture against homosexual behavior (Leviticus 18:22 & Romans 1:26-27); and

WHEREAS, the role of the husband and father in our country is in jeopardy, and therefore the family is in jeopardy (Ephesians 6:4 & 1 Peter 3:7); and

WHEREAS, we have also been given the charge as believers to minister to those who are downtrodden (Matthew 25:40); and

WHEREAS, consumer debt and financial difficulties are the downfall of so many marriages and families (Proverbs 22:7); and

WHEREAS, the Southern Baptist Convention has historically affirmed the foundational importance of the family within the broader culture; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Amarillo, Texas, October 24-24, 2005, reaffirm the scriptural principles that marriage is foundational to the family, further that the family is foundational to a godly society;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that for the health of individuals and families and in the pursuit of holiness, that sexual purity, according to scriptural guidelines, should be maintained. This means that we will support programs of abstinence that encourage our children to maintain their virginity until marriage. We will also speak out against adultery, always encouraging marital fidelity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will support laws that define marriage, according to biblical principles, as the spiritual and legal union of a man and a woman. We will support programs and legislation that will strengthen the family. While reaching out in love, we will also stand against agendas and legislation that advance the homosexual agenda or any other unbiblical agenda that strikes against the biblical principles of marriage and family; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will support programs and actions that help those who are raising children without the help of a spouse. We will also challenge men to take up the God-given responsibilities as husbands and fathers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we encourage families to reduce their indebtedness and work toward freedom from debt; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that we will yield our families and ourselves to God, so that our families might be all that God intends them to be.

Resolution #5
On Educating Children

WHEREAS, God has given parents responsibility for the upbringing and education of our children (Proverbs 22:6; Deuteronomy 6:6-7); and

WHEREAS, many negative influences are attempting to transform the moral foundation of the culture by reshaping the core values of our children, undermining historical truth, and promoting promiscuity, violence, and other immoral behaviors; and

WHEREAS, homosexual activists and their allies have openly declared that they are devoting substantial resources and using political power to promote the acceptance among schoolchildren of homosexuality as a morally legitimate lifestyle; and

WHEREAS, parents have access to textbooks, curricula, special programs, teachers, and other school personnel, giving them tremendous power to effect change in schools; and

WHEREAS, all citizens have the right and responsibility to participate in local, state, and national elections and to use their influence to effect change; and

WHEREAS, involved parents are the ultimate influence in the lives of their children;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Amarillo, Texas, October 24-25, urge parents and churches to research and monitor the entertainment and educational influences on children; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge parents and churches to exercise their rights and responsibilities to review diligently the curricula, textbooks, and programs in our community schools and, as applicable, to demand discontinuation of offensive material and programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge parents and churches to exercise their rights and responsibilities to pursue educational excellence on behalf of all children; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge our churches to assist and support parents as they investigate community schools and as they educate, train and disciple their own children; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commend godly teachers and students who feel called by God to take a stand for Christ in secular schools as lights shining in the darkness; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as citizen Christians we commit to hold accountable schools, institutions, and industries for their moral influence on our children; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that we urge Christian parents to embrace fully their responsibility to make prayerful and informed decisions regarding where and how they educate their children, whether they choose public, private, or home schooling, to ensure their physical, moral, emotional, and spiritual well-being, with a goal of raising godly men and women who are thoroughly equipped to live as fully devoted, well-informed and responsible followers of Christ.

Resolution #6
On Disaster Relief Efforts for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita

WHEREAS, in August and September of 2005 Hurricanes Katrina and Rita made landfall in the Gulf Coast regions of Texas, Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi, and were among the worst natural disasters in American history; and

WHEREAS, many in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Texas died, thousands were injured and left homeless, and many churches were damaged or destroyed; and

WHEREAS, the Bible instructs us as ambassadors for Christ to help those in time of need, with physical assistance of food, water, shelter, clothing, and other physical assistance; and we are instructed to share the gospel with all people, including those affected by these disasters; and

WHEREAS, the Christian community, the Southern Baptist Convention, the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, Southern Baptist churches in Texas, and individuals, have responded with Christ-like compassion, sacrifice, time, and effort to assist those in such a difficult time of need;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Amarillo, Texas, October 24-25, 2005, wish to express our deepest Christian sympathies with those who lost loved ones, were injured, or otherwise harmed in any way by recent natural disasters;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we wish to give glory to God in recognition of the faithful and compassionate response to these disasters by our Southern Baptist Convention, the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, Southern Baptist Churches nationally and in Texas, and the members of those churches who have given their finances, their time, and their effort all in the name of Christ to assist those in such great need;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we wish to recognize the Southern Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention for their efforts in responding to these disasters in Christ's name; which include: financial giving from our conventions directly to disaster relief; the faithful service of the North American Mission Board; the organizing of "Houses of Hope" and "Adopt-A-Church" programs; the tireless work of the SBTC Disaster Relief coordinator, teams, and the thousands that have been trained

and deployed to feed, clothe, and care for victims, and witness for Christ; and the great financial giving, support, and efforts of the numerous SBTC churches and to members of those churches;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that we recognize the continued need to assist those individuals and churches that have been affected; and in faithfulness to our Lord will do all that we are able and called for to be servants in Christ's name to those affected; and encourage SBTC churches and members to pray for, assist, minister, give, witness and take part in the "Houses of Hope" and "Adopt-A-Church" programs; for the purpose of glorifying Christ.

Resolution #7
Appreciation for Church at Quail Creek

WHEREAS, the Church at Quail Creek has opened her doors to us for our annual meeting and has shown hospitality by providing for our needs; and

WHEREAS, fellowship has been strengthened by their servant hearts;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Amarillo, Texas, October 24-25, 2005, extend our sincerest thanks to Pastor Stan Coffey, his staff and to the many volunteers that have made our meeting in Amarillo a meaningful and pleasant experience.

Resolution #8
Appreciation for Chris Osborne

WHEREAS, Pastor Chris Osborne, as president of the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, has led with bold honesty and biblical clarity; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Chris Osborne has faithfully given his time, effort, and Christian leadership to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention in service to Christ; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Chris Osborne's term is expiring;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Amarillo, Texas, October 24-25, 2005, wish to express appreciation to Pastor Chris Osborne for his service as convention president, to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.